

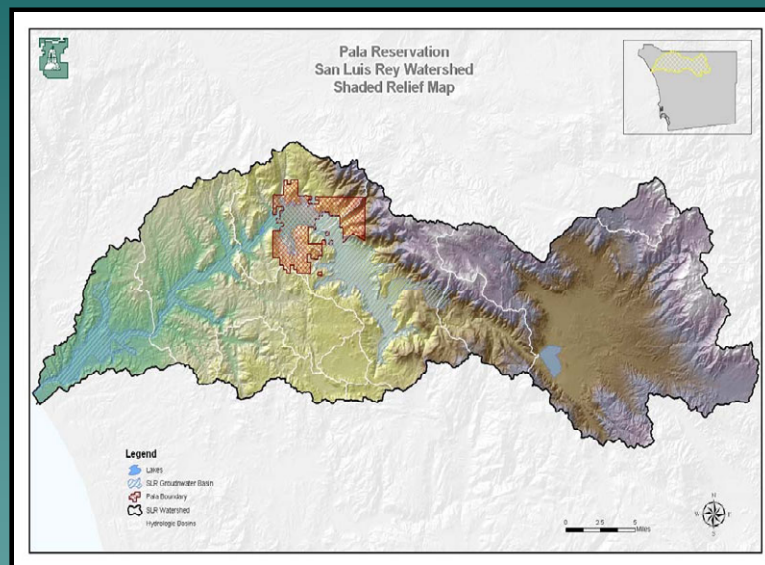
# *A Tribal Case Study:* Integrating a Tribal NPS Program into Watershed- Wide Objectives



**Pala Band of Mission Indians**  
Pala, San Diego County, California  
CWA 319 NPS Program

## Pala Reservation, within the larger San Luis Rey Watershed

- ◆ (northern) San Diego County
- ◆ Reservation is approximately 12,000 acres
- ◆ Reservation & surrounding areas are mostly rural; the area becomes more urbanized further West



## Some NPS Issues found in both the Reservation & the larger Watershed :

### ◆ Invasive Species:

- Arundo (Giant Reed)
- Tamarisk (Salt Cedar) along the San Luis Rey River & tributary creeks

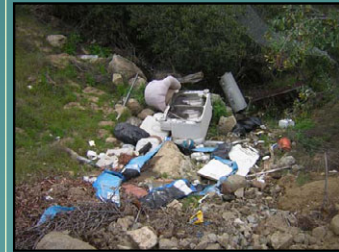


### ◆ Gregory Canyon Landfill

- ◆ a proposed landfill- being built in a canyon that directly drains into the SLR River, right next to an important Tribal Cultural Site.

### ◆ Illegal Dumpsites

- In rural, unincorporated areas there is a greater potential for illegal dumping, due to a lack of appropriate disposal options.



## Why is it important for Tribes to work with other stakeholders?

[ aka: How do Tribes benefit from this? ]

### ◆ Water & NPS Pollution Respect No Boundaries.

- Water pollution issues in a watershed do not recognize political boundaries; therefore effective solutions to non point source pollution problems need to be addressed on a watershed-wide level by all stakeholders in the area.

### ◆ Don't Re-Invent the Wheel:

- Always use the experience & advice from other local groups, when implementing your own Management Measures (BMP's).
- Learn from the successes & mistakes of other local stakeholders.

### ◆ Stretch your Funding Dollars:

- By collaborating with others, you can make the best use of funding dollars, and increase the positive impacts of your project.



### ◆ A Neighbor's Problem Today = Your Problem Tomorrow:

- Water pollution & NPS pollution that occurs upriver (further up the watershed) from you, will someday make it's way downstream & become your problem too.
- Knowledge of NPS issues happening right now upriver, can help you put BMP's in place , & ultimately help you decrease the potential impacts on your lands.
- It is very useful to participate in watershed groups—to learn what else is going on in your watershed,...there might be some things that could help your program, or other things that might impacting your lands.

### ◆ If You're Not Involved, You Can't Get Outside Help:

- It is important to be involved & present at local Watershed Meetings/Events.....If you're not there to voice your local NPS problems, then no one will be able to help you out with your problems.
- It is very important to incorporate Tribal issues with Watershed-Wide Management Documents, in order to get funding for your projects.
- When you help out another Stakeholder, they are usually very open to helping you out at a later time.

## Local Groups / Stakeholders

- ◆ Local Watershed Councils or Groups
  - ◆ Other local Tribes
  - ◆ Municipal or County or Federal Government / Special Districts
  - ◆ Other local Community Organizations / Planning Groups
  - ◆ Local Environmental Organizations / NGO's (non-profit groups)
  - ◆ Weed Management Area Groups
  - ◆ Agricultural (farming) or Lumber Agencies
  - ◆ Local Water Districts
  - ◆ County Water Authority / Regional Water Quality Board
  - ◆ Land Conservancy Groups
- ◆ VISIT YOUR LOCAL COUNTY OR REGIONAL WEBSITE FOR MORE IDEAS

## SLR Watershed Councils/Groups

Watershed-Wide Councils/Groups exist to bring all local stakeholders together in an effort to examine the health of the watershed in a more holistic way (big picture). This enables everyone to help address any problems more effectively.

### ◆ **(ie) Purpose of a Watershed Council:**

- To Foster diverse **stakeholder cooperation in order to preserve** and enhance the environmental, cultural and economic resources of the **Watershed**.

### ◆ **(ie) Goals of a Watershed Council:**

- To write and submit grant proposals to support the it's Mission Statement.
- To develop and implement watershed-wide water quality and quantity monitoring network.
- To guide watershed-related policy and decision makers.
- To promote sustainable agriculture within the watershed.
- To foster information sharing between stakeholders.
- to foster historic cultural values within the watershed.

## How Pala Has Dealt With NPS Issues:

### ◆ Solid Waste: Clean-Up of Illegal Dump Sites:

- ◆ site is along a creek-canyon just outside the Reservation boundary; pollution from this site is carried down the creek & into the Reservation.
- ◆ The Tribe worked with the Upper SLR Resource District to apply for an Integrated Waste Management Grant, which cleaned up the entire site.

BEFORE



AFTER





## How Palá Has Dealt With NPS Issues: SOLID WASTE – JUNKYARD CLEANUP

### ◆ Solid Waste: Clean-Up of Old Junkyard

- ◆ This clean-up project took **5 years** in total
- ◆ funding sources: **EPA CWA 319, BIA, & Tribal Funds**

#### – Removed from this site:

- ◆ 6 Buses/Trailers
- ◆ 6 Trucks/Vans
- ◆ > 2000 Junk cars
- ◆ 662 tires
- ◆ 180 Tons of metal
- ◆ 110 Tons of trash



AFTER

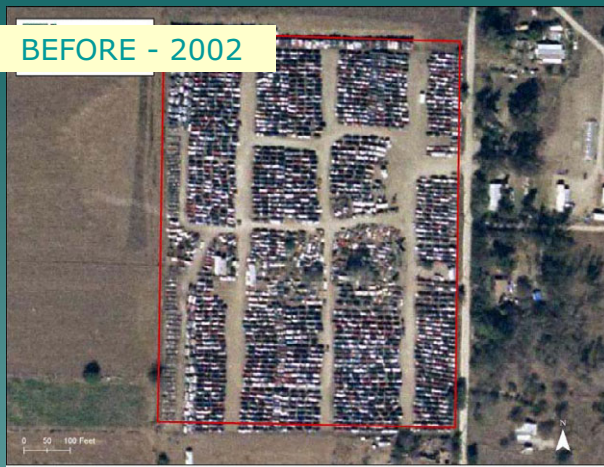


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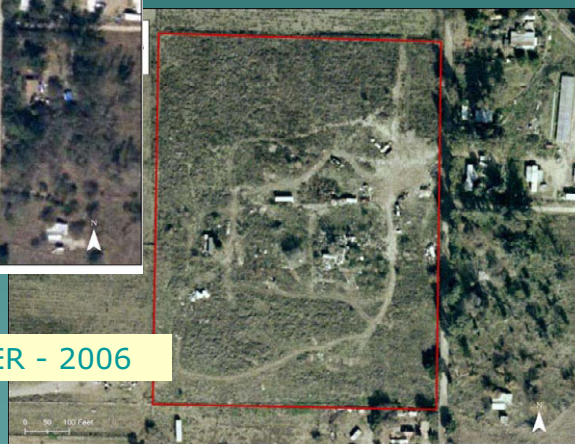


## How Palá Has Dealt With NPS Issues: SOLID WASTE – JUNKYARD CLEANUP

BEFORE - 2002



AFTER - 2006



## How Pala Has Dealt With NPS Issues: SOLID WASTE :Household Hazardous Waste

### ♦ Solid Waste: Pala Household Hazardous Clean-Up Days

- Tribe worked with the County on the clean-up efforts
- Funding from CWA 319, SWAP, GAP grants & the Tribe.



AFTER

#### 2007 Clean-Up Days

##### Removed:

120 gallons used motor oil  
Pesticides  
285 gallons used paint  
42 Appliances  
2 40yd dumpsters Tires  
Metal  
45 Batteries  
50 E-Waste



BEFORE



## How Pala Has Dealt With NPS Issues: SOLID WASTE – Tribal Transfer Station

### ♦ Solid Waste/Illegal Dumpsites:

#### - Building a Local Tribal Transfer Station

This will give people a proper place to dispose of their waste & other recycling items. Once the new Tribal Transfer Station is open, there should be a reduction in illegal dumpsites.



Summer  
2007



## How Pala Has Dealt With NPS Issues:

### ◆ Invasive Species Removal:

A watershed-wide approach to removing invasive species is usually the most successful approach to solving the problem for the long term.

- Successful invasive removal treatments begin in the upper watershed first, working down into the lower watershed areas. This reduces the percentage of re-seeding.
- Watershed-wide public education & outreach is very important; this helps discourage people from re-planting these pests in the future.

## How Pala Has Dealt With NPS Issues: Invasive Species Removal: Arundo (Giant Reed):

### ◆ Arundo (Giant Reed)

- There is a local non-profit group in our area, the Santa Margarita San Luis Rey Weed Management Area (SMSLRWMA), who seeks out funding to remove invasive species for all stakeholders.
- They started to remove Arundo from the upper watershed in 2002, steadily moving westward to the end of the watershed.
- They worked with the Tribe in 2004-2006 to remove all Arundo within Reservation Boundaries.





## How Paġa Has Dealt With NPS Issues: Invasive Species Removal: Tamarisk (Salt Cedar):

### ◆ Tamarisk (Salt Cedar):

- The Tribe worked with many watershed groups including:
  - ◆ SMSLRWMA
  - ◆ TISC—Tribal Invasive Species Committee
  - ◆ UC Davis Co-Op Extension
  - ◆ SD County Ag. Dept.
- These groups helped with:
  - ◆ various treatment methods
  - ◆ trustworthy contractors
  - ◆ permits

#### FUNDING SOURCE:

Tribe & 319 Gr



## How Paġa Has Dealt With NPS Issues: Invasive Species Removal: Tamarisk (Salt Cedar):

### ◆ Tamarisk (Salt Cedar):

- Foliar Spray Method: in the Fall, as the plant draws the nutrients (& herbicide) down into the roots
- 1<sup>st</sup> Treatment: Fall 2006
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Treatment: Fall 2007
- Re-Planting: Spring 2008

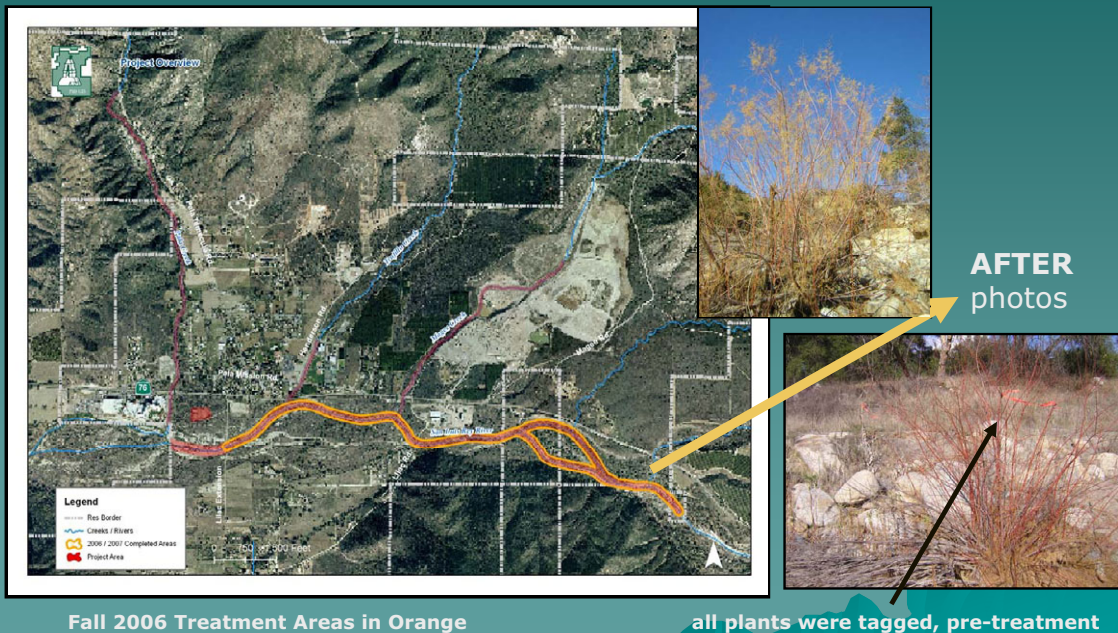


BEFORE

AFTER



## How Pala Has Dealt With NPS Issues: Invasive Species Removal: Tamarisk (Salt Cedar):



## Part 2: (Tribal) Watershed Based Plan

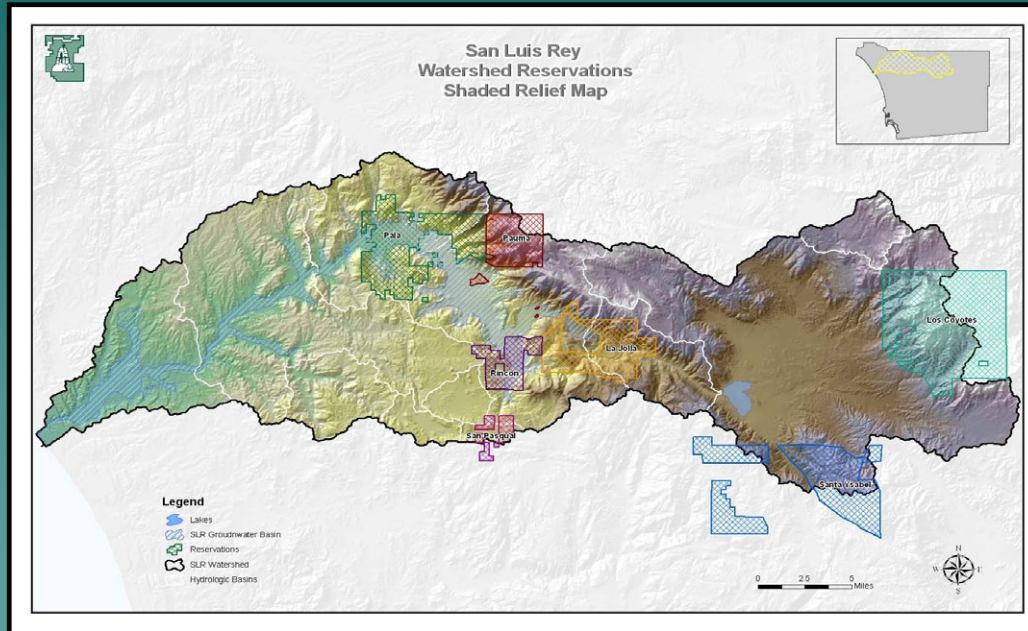
## (Tribal) Watershed Based Plan: What Is It?

- ◆ Similar to your NPS Assessment Reports & Management Plans, except you're looking at the whole watershed.
- ◆ **What does it include?**
  - Identifies possible sources of NPS pollution
  - Identifies possible BMP's or Management Measures for each NPS Source (& who can help)
  - Identifies the expected water quality based goals
- ◆ There are 9 specific elements in a watershed based plan
- ◆ To find out more information:
  - <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/tribal.html>

## (Tribal) Watershed Based Plan: Why Do We Need It?

- ◆ Once a Watershed Based Plan is finished, anyone in the watershed can use it to apply for their own Base & Competitive CWA 319 Funds, and carry out any NPS on-the-ground projects.
- ◆ Competitive 319 funds are significantly more \$ than Base funds, which **means more money for more useful projects**.
- ◆ Since many of these projects will extend beyond Tribal Borders, there is the potential for **many other funding sources** and/or **outside stakeholder help**.
- ◆ Increase in Funding Amounts & Sources
- ◆ Increase in Project Size & Success

## (Tribal) Watershed Based Plan: --Tribes in the SLR Watershed--



## (Tribal) Watershed Based Plan: --Pala's Involvement--

- ◆ Pala received a Competitive CWA 319 Grant for FY 07/08 to:
  - Develop a **Tribal** Watershed Based Plan for the SLR Watershed.
  - This plan will **focus on Tribal Lands in the Upper Watershed**
  - Pala will take the lead in developing this plan
  - Will cover EPA's recommended 9 Elements of a Watershed Based Plan
  - Once finished, **this plan can be used by ALL Tribes in our watershed** to guide their NPS projects & apply for funding.

The hope is to have multiple stakeholders/Tribes work on overlapping projects,.....this will stretch funding \$ and increase project success.

## (Tribal) Watershed Based Plan: Other Resources to Use

### ◆ Possible Resources To Use:

- EPA's Watershed Based Plan Guidelines
- Each Tribes' NPS Assessments & Management Plans
- San Luis Rey Watershed Guidelines (2000)

### ◆ END GOALS:

- 1 Document used by all the Tribes in our Watershed, if they want
- A more holistic look at NPS problems & their solutions
- Overlapping projects, that look at the health of the watershed as a whole

The hope is to have all Tribes in a watershed cooperate with & help each other to solve their NPS Issues.

Often similar documents are developed by watershed groups, which leave out any reference to Tribal lands; Tribes are also reluctant to share information/data with outside stakeholders. This results in projects that are under-funded, a lot of duplicate (wasted) efforts.

A Tribal Watershed Based Plan, will help address problems & solve on a larger scale, while still giving Tribes control over their own Plan.

## Questions?—for more info:

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